



PATENT APPLICATION  
Q82273

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masahiro SANO

Appln. No.: 10/500,191

Confirmation No.: 9237

Filed: June 25, 2004

For: PNEUMATIC TIRE

Group Art Unit: 1733

Examiner: Geoffrey L. Knable

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief, the information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

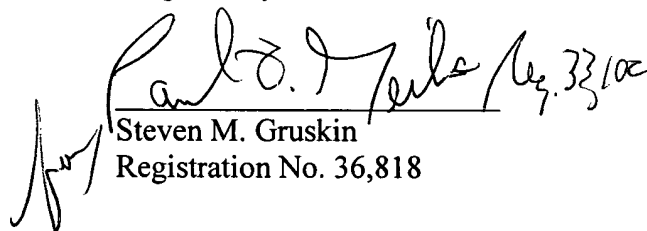
Respectfully submitted,

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
Steven M. Gruskin  
Registration No. 36,818

Date: August 15, 2006



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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), which the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith (with the exception of U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed subsequent to June 30, 2003), along with a copy of a communication from the Chinese Patent Office issued June 2, 2006, in connection with a counterpart Chinese application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, a Notice of Allowance, or any action that otherwise

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Serial No. 10/500,191

Art Unit 1733  
Q82273

closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier) and, therefore, Applicant is also filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The identification of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

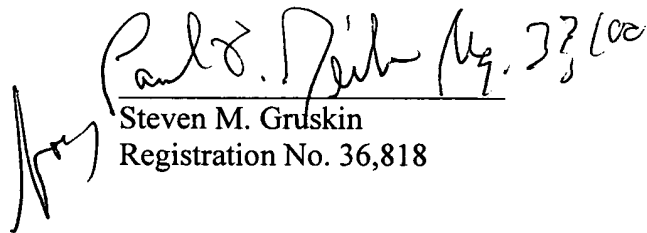
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Substitute for Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

*Complete if Known*

Application Number	10/500,191
Confirmation Number	9237
Filing Date	June 25, 2004
First Named Inventor	Masahiro SANO
Art Unit	1733
Examiner Name	Geoffrey L. Knable
Attorney Docket Number	Q82273

Sheet	1	of	1
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	AA	4,823,856	A	04-25-1989	Roberts
	AB				
	AC				
	AD				
	AE				
	AF				
	AG				
	AH				

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
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	AQ						
	AR						
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**NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
	AU		
	AV		
	AW		
	AX		
	AY		
	AZ		

Examiner Signature:

Date Considered:

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.